(iii) Upgardation of posts of the 'Packing Cleaners' in the higher scale.

Managing Committee of the Super Bazar has always been very sympathetic to legitimate demands of the employees and holding meeting with the representatives of the employees.

[*Translation*]

Time Given for National and International News in Regional News Bulletin

5714. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government in regard to allotment of time for national and international news out of the time fixed for regional news bulletins of States on Doordarshan;

(b) whether out of the 15 minutes time about 10 minutes are taken by non-local news and the same news are repeated again in the evening news telecast in National Bulletin at 8.40 p.m.; and

(c) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to give importance to regional news by removing this anomaly?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c). No fixed time has been allocated for National, International and Regional news in the news bulletins telecast from the Regional Kendras of Doordarshan. While local news items are given prominence in these news bulletins, it is considered necessary to include important national international news items in order to meet the requirements of viewers who understand only the local language.

[*English*]

Loans to SC/ST Under NREP

5715. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bank employees and other middlemen while sanctioning loans to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections under NREP have committed some irregularities in Coastal districts and Warangal and Kareemnagar districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government conducted any enquiry into the matter against the erring persons; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a). Union Government have not received any information regarding irregularities by Bank employees and other middlemen while sanctioning loans to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Weaker Sections in Coastal Districts and Warangal and Kareemnagar Districts of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

Edible oil Extraction unit

5716. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an edible oil extraction unit in Chithara oil palm estate area near Punalur in Kerala; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of palm oil extraction

units in the country with details of locations thereof;

(c) the quantity of raw material collected for palm oil extraction from Chithara oil palm estate and the quantity of palm oil extracted there-from in the last year;

(d) whether the quantity of oil extracted from the raw materials is in economical proportion;

(e) whether the oil seeds received for cultivation in Chithara oil palm estate were found unfit for use; if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(f) the remedial steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (f). The information is being collected from M/s. Oil Palm India Limited (a joint-venture of the Government of India and the Government of Kerala) and will be laid on the table of the Sabha when received.

Remuneration to Artists

5717. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Artists who give performance of classical music for 40 minutes are paid Rs. 160/- while those who give performance in light music (Sugam Sangeet) for 25 minutes get Rs. 400/-;

(b) if so, the reasons of such difference; and

(c) the remedial measures proposed in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) and (b). There is no discrimination in the fees paid to the artists of classical or light music.

Payments to the artists are uniformally made according to their gradation as decided by the Music Audition Board of All India Radio.

However, as compared to the artists of light, folk and adivasi music, because of their specific requirements, artists of classical & light classical music are expected to perform for a longer duration for delineation of the feelings and development of a raga.

(c) Does not arise.

Industrially backward districts in Tamil Nadu

5718. SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the places declared as industrially backward areas in Thiruvannamalai Sambuvarayar District and South Arcot District in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) whether Polur Taluk, Vandavasi Taluk Cheyyar Taluk and Thiruvannamalai Taluk in Sambuvarayar District and Gingee taluk and Tindivanam Taluk in South Arcot District will be declared as industrially backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P.J. KURIEN): (a) and (b). The entire North Arcot and South Arcot Districts as they existed on 1.10.1970 have been declared as industrially backward Districts. The districts/areas, if any, carved out of these districts will continue to be treated as industrially backward.